

Burke House
Kane County
Batavia, Illinois

HABS No. Ill.-163

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Reduced Copies of Measured Drawings

PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
District No. Ill.1

Historic American Buildings Survey
Earl H. Reed, District Officer
435 North Michigan Ave., Chicago.

THE BURKE HOUSE
Batavia, Kane County, Illinois

Owner - Miss Mary Louise Burke

Date of Erection - About 1852

Builder - Thomas J. Cleveland (original owner)
Contractor and Architect unknown.

Present Condition - Very good.

Number of Stories - Two

Materials of Construction - Rubble stone foundations, brick chimneys. White oak studding and flooring joists, white pine siding. Roof of sawn pine shingles.

Additional Data - The plot where the house stands was sold by the U. S. Government to Joel McKee in 1843 according to County Records and passed from McKee to Lester Barker, to Allison House, to Joseph Churchill and to John Van Nortwick.

Thomas J. Cleveland is said to have built the house for himself about 1852, but no record is found concerning an architect or the name of the contractor.

John Burnham, founder and president of the U. S. Wind Engine and Pump Company owned the house in 1860. A windmill tower once stood on the premises and may have been used for Mr. Burnham's experiments, as he was an inventor.

The house was sold by Mr. Burnham to Albert G. Burke, who made several small additions to the building. Mr. Burke's daughter, Mary Louise Burke, is the present owner and occupant.

Sources - Kane County Records and Mary Louise Burke, the present owner.

By Margaret D. Jones

Approved Edw. C. Jones